# COMMUNITY ALERT

**Notification**

**LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE NORTHEAST CRIME ANALYSIS DETAIL**

# RESIDENTIAL ROBBERY

## ELDERLY VICTIMS

## DISTRACTION ROBBERY, BURGLARY & THEFT

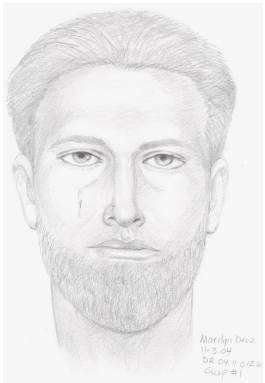
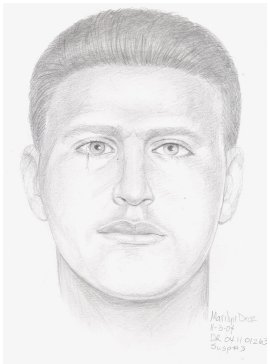
## RD'S 1142, 1143, 1162, 1172, 1135, 1148, 1112 & 1113

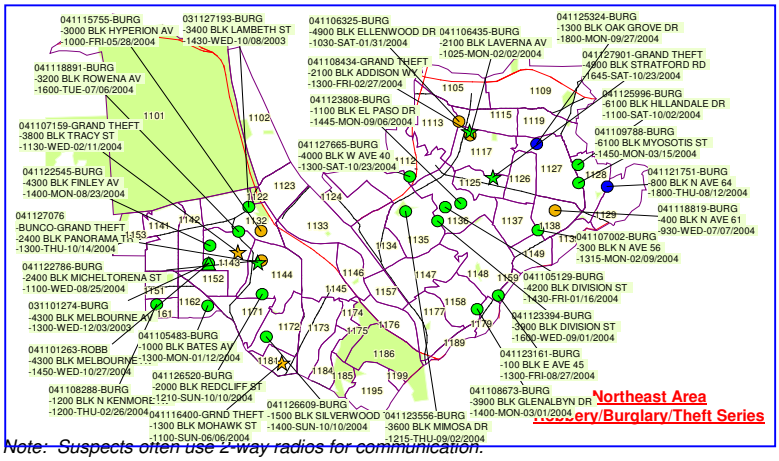
The public, in particular the communities of Northeast Area, are being alerted to an ongoing scam of distraction burglaries occurring since January of this year. The suspects target elderly members of the community.

The suspects work in teams composed of men, women and sometimes children, who door-knock on the homes of elderly citizens. The suspects pose as utility workers, home repairmen or sales people to gain entry into the victim's residence or lure the elderly outside. While the residents are distracted, the suspects steal jewelry and/or money.

The number of burglary incidents has increased and is occurring with more frequency. The suspects have escalated their activity to the level of robbery by using force against the elderly resident.

### Information on Suspects

| Suspect #1 | Suspect #2 | Suspects #3 |
|---|---|---|
| Male / Poss Armenian or Russian<br>Brown hair / Hazel eyes<br>5'9", 185-190 Lbs., 23-28 Yrs. | Male / Poss Armenian or Russian<br>Black hair / Brown eyes<br>5'6", 145-150 Lbs., 40-45 Yrs. | Male / Poss Armenian or Russian<br>Brown hair / Hazel eyes<br>6'2"-6'3", 245 Lbs. |
| **Oddities:**<br>Thick beard, clean-cut | **Oddities:**<br>Stringy hair, dark olive complexion | **Oddities:**<br>Light complexion, clean-cut beard |
| **Clothing:**<br>Blue jeans, long-sleeved dark shirt, black shoes | **Clothing:**<br>Dark pants, blue plaid shirt | **Clothing:**<br>Dark pants, grey/green pullover sweater w/ white T-shirt underneath |
|  | |  |




*Note: Suspects often use 2-way radios for communication.*

### Scam Scenarios

**Utility Company Workers**

Tells resident there is a problem in the neighborhood. The resident is asked to assist them. They may offer to compensate the resident for their time and ask for change for a large bill or ask for a glass of water. While resident is distracted, suspect takes jewelry and/or cash.

**Home Repairs**

Tells resident they are making home repairs in the area and offer to do repairs such as roofing. They ask for cash up front or distract the resident and enter the home to take cash and/or jewelry.

**Cut Trees**

Offers to cut trees for the homeowner. They distract the resident by requesting cash up front and enter the home to take cash and/or jewelry

**Selling Rugs**

Tells homeowner they are selling rugs. They enter the residence and distract the homeowner to take cash and/or jewelry.

**Contact Northeast Robbery Detectives (213) 847-4270 or after-hours, the Watch Commander at (213) 485-2563**

**Approved by:** Det. M. Ramos #22873

**Date:** November 4, 2004 CAD #11041028-1COMM